

**CITY OF MIAMI BEACH**  
**Office of the City Manager**  
**Letter to Commission No. 058-2005**



**To:** Mayor David Dermer and  
Members of the City Commission

**Date:** March 1, 2005

**From:** Jorge M. Gonzalez  
City Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Jorge M. Gonzalez", written over the printed name.

**Subject: ATTORNEY GENERAL STOREFRONT PROJECT**

This Letter to the City Commission is to provide an update on the State of Florida Attorney General's Storefront Project. This program is designed to address the growing concern that crimes impacting our elderly population frequently go unreported. The reasons for this vary from lack of trust and fear to the embarrassment of admitting that they were a victim. Offering police services from a storefront location is believed to be a venue that our elderly residents would be more likely to feel comfortable using.

The Storefront Project was launched in the City of Miami Beach in July 2004. The original location was in the Crime Prevention Office on the first floor of the Police Station. This location did not provide the easy access for the elderly that the program needs for success. To rectify this situation, two additional locations with easier public access were proposed. The new locations are in the Police Department's North End Sub-Station (NESS) and at the new RDA office in the South Pointe area.

Both offices are scheduled to be open on March 2, 2005. They will be staffed by volunteers who will be trained to be a reference point for those who are victims of crimes as well as provide referral service for questions dealing with civil cases, Social Security, Medicaid, and landlord/tenant complaints. The operational aspects of this project will be supervised through the Crime Prevention Office.

The South Pointe RDA Office will be open on Mondays and Wednesdays from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00p.m., and the NESS Office will be open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The program currently has two trained volunteers and additional volunteers are being actively recruited. This information will be disseminated to the news media by the Police Department's Public Information Officer.

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